

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier version and listings.

1. - 10. (canceled).

11. (currently amended): An information processing apparatus connected to a first printer and a second printer, comprising:

a discriminating unit adapted to discriminate to which of the first printer and the second printer each page of print information is outputted;

an output unit adapted to output, to the first printer, the page in the print information which was determined to be outputted to the first printer, and to output, to the second printer, the page in the print information which was determined to be outputted to the second printer; and

a controller, adapted to add control information for switching ejecting positions regarding the pages in which a succession of page numbers was broken to the print information which is outputted to the first printer by said output unit in a manner such that the pages are sorted and ejected on an output page unit basis of the succeeding page numbers in the first printer,

wherein said controller further adds control information for switching
ejecting positions regarding the pages in which succession of page numbers is broken to
the print information which is outputted to the second printer by said output unit in a
manner such that the pages are sorted and ejected on an output page unit basis of the
succeeding page numbers in the second printer.

12. (canceled).

13. (previously presented): An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said controller further adds the control information in accordance with the sorting function which the first printer has.

14. (previously presented): An apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the control information is control information for instructing a sorter processing function for sorting and outputting each output sheet by using a plurality of bins.

15. (previously presented): An apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the control information is control information for instructing a shift processing function for deviating the ejecting position of each output sheet and putting the sheets onto the same tray.

16. (canceled).

17. (previously presented): An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said discriminating unit discriminates to which of the first printer and the second printer each page of the print information should be outputted in accordance with whether information to be color printed exists in each page of the print information or not.

18. (previously presented): An apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the first printer is a monochromatic printer and the second printer is a color printer.

19. (currently amended): A print information outputting method comprising:
a discriminating step, of discriminating to which of a first printer and a
second printer each page of print information is outputted;

an output step, of outputting, to the first printer, the page in the print
information which was determined to be outputted to the first printer, and outputting, to the
second printer, the page in the print information which was determined to be outputted to
the second printer; and

a control step, of adding control information for switching ejecting positions
regarding the pages in which a succession of page numbers was broken to the print
information which is outputted to the first printer] in said output step in a manner such that
the pages are sorted and ejected on an output page unit basis of the succeeding page
numbers in the first printer,

wherein, in said control step, control information for switching ejecting
positions regarding the pages in which succession of page numbers is broken is further
added to the print information which is outputted to the second printer in said output step
in a manner such that the pages are sorted and ejected on an output page unit basis of the
succeeding page numbers in the second printer.

20. (canceled).

21. (previously presented): A method according to claim 19, wherein, in said control step, the control information is added in accordance with the sorting function which the first printer has.

22. (previously presented): A method according to claim 21, wherein the control information is control information for instructing a sorter processing function for sorting and outputting each output sheet by using a plurality of bins.

23. (previously presented): A method according to claim 21, wherein the control information is control information for instructing a shift processing function for deviating the ejecting position of each output sheet and putting the sheets onto the same tray.

24. (canceled).

25. (previously presented): A method according to claim 19, wherein, in said discriminating step, to which of the first printer and the second printer each page of the print information should be outputted is discriminated in accordance with whether information to be color printed exists in each page of the print information or not.

26. (previously presented): A method according to claim 25, wherein the first printer is a monochromatic printer and the second printer is a color printer.

27. (currently amended): A computer program, which is stored in a computer-readable medium and is executed by a computer of an information processing apparatus connected to a first printer and a second printer, comprising:

a discriminating step, of discriminating to which of the first printer and the second printer each page of print information is outputted;

an output step, of outputting, to the first printer, the page in the print information which was determined to be outputted to the first printer, and outputting, to the second printer, the page in the print information which was determined to be outputted to the second printer; and

a control step, of adding control information for switching ejecting positions regarding the pages in which a succession of page numbers was broken to the print information which is outputted to the first printer] in said output step in a manner such that the pages are sorted and ejected on an output page unit basis of the succeeding page numbers in the first printer,

wherein, in said control step, control information for switching ejecting positions regarding the pages in which succession of page numbers is broken is further added to the print information which is outputted to the second printer in said output step in a manner such that the pages are sorted and ejected on an output page unit basis of the succeeding page numbers in the second printer.

28. (original): A computer-readable memory medium which stores the computer program according to claim 27.

29. (currently amended): An information processing apparatus capable of communicating with a plurality of print control apparatuses including a color print control apparatus and a monochromatic print control apparatus, said information processing apparatus comprising:

a discrimination unit adapted to discriminate whether print data to be output to any of the plurality of print control apparatuses is color data or monochromatic data;

a determination unit adapted to determine whether the print data is to be output either to the color print control apparatus or to the monochromatic print control apparatus based on a discrimination made by said discrimination unit;

a first output unit adapted to, when said determination unit determines that the print data is to be output to the color print control apparatus, output the print data to the color print control apparatus with a designation of a first ejection destination, wherein said first output unit outputs a certain page while maintaining the designation of the first ejection destination, if the page is serial to a previously outputted page, and ~~changes outputs a certain page together with a designation changed from~~ the designation of the first ejection destination, if the page is not serial to the previously outputted page; and

a second output unit adapted to, when said determination unit determines that the print data is to be output to the monochromatic print control apparatus, output the print data to the monochromatic print control apparatus with a designation of a second ejection destination, wherein said second output unit outputs a certain page while maintaining the designation of the second ejection destination, if the page is serial to a previously outputted page, and ~~changes outputs a certain page together with a designation~~

changed from the designation of the second ejection destination, if the page is not serial to the previously outputted page.

30. (previously presented): An information processing apparatus according to claim 29, further comprising a holding unit adapted to hold information on the designation of the first or second ejection destination, wherein said first or second output unit outputs the certain page while maintaining the designation of the first or second ejection destination based on the information held in said holding unit, if the page is serial to the previously outputted page.

31. (currently amended): An information processing method for use in an information processing apparatus that is capable of communicating with a plurality of print control apparatuses including a color print control apparatus and a monochromatic print control apparatus, said method comprising the steps of:

discriminating whether print data to be output to any of the plurality of print control apparatuses is color data or monochromatic data;

determining whether the print data is to be output either to the color print control apparatus or to the monochromatic print control apparatus based on a discrimination made in said discriminating step;

when it is determined in said determining step that the print data is to be output to the color print control apparatus, outputting the print data to the color print control apparatus with a designation of a first ejection destination, while maintaining the designation of the first ejection destination, if the page is serial to a previously outputted

page, and while changing outputting a certain page together with a designation changed from the designation of the first ejection destination, if the page is not serial to the previously outputted page; and

when it is determined in said determinating step that the print data is to be output to the monochromatic print control apparatus, outputting the print data to the monochromatic print control apparatus with a designation of a second ejection destination, while maintaining the designation of the second ejection destination, if the page is serial to a previously outputted page, and while changing while outputting a certain page together with a designation changed from the designation of the second ejection destination, if the page is not serial to the previously outputted page.

32. (previously presented): An information processing method according to claim 31, further comprising the step of holding information on the designation of the first or second ejection destination, wherein the certain page is outputted while maintaining the designation of the first or second ejection destination based on the information held in said holding step, if the page is serial to the previously outputted page.